

OFFICE OF
REVENUE

January 16, 2002

#21 Reg for
Refund
03-03-02

Dear Sirs:

I am writing to request a refund for \$500 which was enclosed with patent application, serial number 10/036042. I had enclosed check #131 for \$500 with the application. The application had been sent by Express mail on November 9, 2001 but received by the USPTO in Jan. 2002. I had been told by the Post Office that it was going to be returned to me and not sent to the USPTO (see below). I would also like to abandon this application and have it returned to me so it can be destroyed (10/036042). The number from the Express mail shipping receipt is ET205777375US.

Several days after mailing the above application on November 9, 2001, I checked the USPS website to make sure the application had been received by the USPTO. There was no confirmation of delivery. I went to the post office to check. They had no information to offer me. The following week I found out that the application had been rejected by the USPTO Post office and sent away for decontamination. Later I learned from the Post Office that the zip code I had sent the application to at the USPTO was now closed. I asked the Post Office what was going to happen. They said that my application would be returned to me. I could then resend it to the alternate USPTO zip code. They also informed me that it could take several months before it was returned to me.

At that point I decided that I would prepare a new application and have it hand delivered. I assumed that the one I mailed on November 9, 2001 would be coming back to me and I would destroy it when it arrived. I made one change to the figures (a deletion of the 19th page) and sent the new application to my nephew, Dan Burton, who was working in D.C. as a State Department intern. Dan in turn hand delivered it to the USPTO. It subsequently was given a filing date of 12/03/01 and assigned the number 09/998638. I would like to retain this filing date and number as my original regular patent application. Please let me know if you need any additional information.

Thank you,

Read Taintor

Read Taintor

98 Mason Lane

North Salt Lake, Ut 84054

(801) 436-7178

Email: readtaintor@networld.com